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ARTICLES

OF

VISITATION and INQUIRY

TO BE MADE

Within the ſeveral Pariſhes of the Dioceſs of DUBLIN,

IN THE

VISITATION

OF THE

Moſt Reverend Father in God

NARCISSUS,

MARSH

By Divine Providence Lord Arch-Biſhop

OF

DUBLIN,

Primate and Metropolitan of *Ireland*,

Held in the Year of our Lord 1698

DUBLIN, Printed by *Joſeph Ray* in *Skinner-Row*, over againſt the *Tholſel*. 1698

Articles of Viſitation and Enquiry in the ſeveral Pariſhes of the ——— Dioceſſe aforeſaid.

I. *Concerning Churches, Church-Yards, Houſes, and Glebes thereto belonging.*

1 HAve you a *Pariſh-Church* or *Chappel* in good repair, both in the *Roof*, *Windows*, *Floor*, *Seats*? and are all things therein kept decently and in order? [*Canon* 43.] Hath it been *Conſecrated*? And is the *Church-Yard* alſo well fenc'd and decently kept? and hath any *Encroachment* been made upon it and by whom? [*Canon* 93.]

2. Have you a fit *Seat* (or *Pew*) for the Miniſter, with a decent *Pulpit* conveniently placed; *A large Engliſh Bible*, and *two Books of Common Prayer*, and a *fine Surplice* kept clean and white? Have you a *Font of Stone* ſet in the uſual place; and doth your Miniſter *Baptize* there publickly? Have you a *Communion-Table*, ſtanding at the *Eaſt end* of the Church; a *Silver Cup* or *Chalice*; a fair *Carpet* and a *white Linen Cloth* to cover it for the Celebration of the Holy Communion? [*Can.* 94.]

3. Have you a *Parchment Book* for Regiſtring the *Day and Year* of every *Chriſtning*, *Wedding*, and *Burial* in your Pariſh? And is it kept in all points as is required by *Canon* 46? And have you a *Table of the Degrees* wherein *Marriage* is prohibited, hanging up in your Church; and alſo *a Book of the Canons* of the Church of *Ireland*? [*Can.* 47. *King's Declaration.*]

4. Have you a true *Terrier* of all the *Lands*, *Glebe*, *Meadows*, *Gardens*, *Orchards*, *Houſes*, *Stocks*, *Implements*, *Tenements*, and *portions of Tithes*, and all other *Rights* belonging to the *Parſonage* or *Vicarage*? Have any of theſe been *withheld* from the Miniſter, and *how long*, and *by whom*, as you have heard? Is the ſaid *Terrier* laid up in the *Biſhop's Regiſtry*? [*Can.* 44.] And is your *Parſonage* or *Vicarage-Houſe* (together with the *Out-Houſes*) in *good repair*? [*Can.* 24.]

II. *Concerning*

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II. *Concerning Miniſters.*

1. Has your *Miniſter* been *legally Inſtituted and Inducted?* [*Can.* 38.] Is he *defam'd* or *ſuſpected* to have *obtained* his *Living* by *Simoniacal compact?* [*Can.* 35.]

2. Is your *Miniſter conſtantly reſident among you*, and doth he *Preach every Lords Day* in the Morning, and *Read Prayers* in the Afternoon? How long hath he *been abſent* from his Cure; and who hath *Supplyed* it during his *abſence?* Doth he *Serve* any other *Eccleſiaſtical Benefice?* [*Can.* 36.]

3. Doth your *Miniſter* in reading the *Morning* and *Evening Service*, *Adminiſtration of the Holy Sacraments*, *Celebration of Marriage*, *Churching of Women* after Child-birth, *Viſitation of the Sick*, and *Burial of the Dead*, uſe *the Form* and *Words* preſcrib'd in the *Book of Common Prayer*, and obſerve the *rites* of *time*, *place* and *manner*, as appointed in that Book, or otherwiſe required; ſo far as you have heard or do know? [*Can.* 7.]

4. Doth *your Miniſter* at reading *Divine Offices* in the Church wear the *Surplice*, and in *Cathedral Churches* ſuch other *Habit alſo* as is ſuitable to his *Degree*, as is preſcrib'd in the *7th Canon*?

5. Doth *your Miniſter* Celebrate the *Sacrament of the Lords Supper* ſo often that every Pariſhioner may receive it *Three times* at the leaſt *every Year*, giving *notice* thereof the *Sunday* before-hand? And doth he *keep back* ſuch as ought not to be admitted, and give an account of them to the *Biſhop?* [*Can.* 18, 19, 20. *Rubr. Com.*]

6. Doth *your Miniſter* diligently *Inſtruct* the *Youth* of the *Pariſh* in the *Church Catechiſm* on every *Sunday* in the *Afternoon*? and doth he *prepare* and *preſent them* being ſo *inſtructed* to be *Confirmed* by the *Biſhop?* [*Can.* 11,12,17. *Rubr. of Confirm.*]

7. Doth he *refuſe* or *neglect* to *Viſit the Sick*, and *Bury* the *Dead?* [*Can.* 41.] or delay the *Baptiſm* of any Infant in *danger of death?* [*Can.* 14,15.] Doth he *Baptize* in the Church all thoſe Children that are healthy enough to be brought to the Church? [*Rubr. of Bapt.*]

8. Hath he *Marry'd* any Perſons in *private Houſes*, or at any other

other Hours than between *Eight and Twelve* in the Morning; or without *Bans* firſt publiſh'd in the *Church* on *Three Sundays* or *Holy days*, (unleſs he had a *Licence* for ſo doing): or ſuch as being under the Age of Twenty two Years, had not the *conſent* of their *Parents* or *Guardians*? [*Can. 52. Rubr. of Matrim.*]

9. Doth *your Miniſter* declare to the *People* every *Sunday*, at the time appointed in the *Communion Service*, the ſeveral *Holy-days* and *Faſting-days* in the Week following; and doth he obſerve them? [*Can. 7. Rubr. Commun.*] Doth he alſo *read all the Canons* publickly in the Church *Once* every Year; and the Act *againſt Swearing*; and that for *keeping the 29th of* May, *and the 23d of* October *a Thanksgiving*?

10. Is *your Miniſter* a Man of a *ſober*, *ſtudious*, *peaceable and exemplary life*? Is he *grave*, *modeſt*, and *regular* in his outward *demeanour* and *apparel*? Is he in any kind *diſorderly* and *ſcandalous*? [*Can.* 42.]

11. Doth he *confer* with the Recuſants of his Pariſh, and *labour* to reclaim them from their *Errors* and *Superſtitions*? [*Can.* 40.]

12. Doth he *keep*, or cauſe to be *kept* in his Pariſh, *an Engliſh School*, according to the Statute in that caſe provided, 28 *H.* 8. *C.* 15?

13. Is *your Pariſh* a *Parſonage*, *Vicarage*, *Dignity*, *Prebendary*, *Impropriate* or *Appropriate Cure*? [*Can.* 36.] How many *Benefices*, *Eccleſiaſtical Promotions* or *Cures* hath *your Parſon*, *Vicar*, or *Curate*; and how far diſtant are they one from another? Doth the Parſon or Vicar ſerve your Cure by a Curate; [*Can.* 38.] and if ſo, is ſuch Curate *Licenc'd* by the *Biſhop*; and doth he allow him a competent *Maintenance* for ſupplying the ſaid Cure; and what is ſuch *Maintenance* or *Allowance*? How many *Churches* or *Chappels* doth the Miniſter or Curate ſerve in one day; and how far diſtant are they one from another; and if your Pariſh be an Appropriation or Impropriation with Cure? What Allowance is made for Serving the ſaid Cure; [*Can.* 37.] and to whom doth the ſaid Appropriation or Impropriation belong; and of what clear Yearly Value is the ſame?

III. *Concern-*

III. *Concerning the Pariſhioners.*

1. Do *your Pariſhioners* of the *Communion of the Church of Ireland* duly frequent the *Church*, and demean themſelves Orderly and Reverently there during *Divine Service*, and *Preaching the word of God*? [*Can. 7. Rubr. of Book of Com. Prayer.*]

2. Is there any *Perſon* in your Pariſh who *is guilty*, (or liveth under a *common fame* or *ſuſpition* of being guilty) of *Adultery*, *Fornication*, *Inceſt*, or any other *uncleanneſs* or *wickedneſs of life*? Are there any *common Drunkards*, *Swearers*, or *Blaſphemers* of God's Name? Or any that are publickly noted for *prophane or filthy Talkers* among their Neighbours? [*Can.* 61, 62.]

3. Are there any profeſſing to live in the *Communion of the Church of Ireland* who neglect to come to the *Sacrament of the Lords Supper* Thrice at the leaſt every Year, whereof *Eaſter* to be one; being of age fit to receive: as the *Rubr. in the Commun. Service requires*? [*and Can.* 18,19,95,63.]

4. Are there any living within your Pariſh as *Man* and *Wife*, who are within the *Degrees prohibited*? [*Can.* 47.] Or who are reputed to have a *Husband* or *Wife* elſewhere?

5. Do you know or have heard of any in your Pariſh, who having the *Preſentation* of any *Eccleſiaſtical Living*, have made any *Simoniacal Compact* or *Gain* thereby, either in *Money* or by *Reſerving* any *part of the Tythes* or *Glebe* belonging to the *Benefice*; or *farming* the ſame at great under value. [*Can.* 35.]

6. Hath any *Legacy* been left by *Will* to the *Church*, or to the *Poor of your Pariſh*, or to any other *Pious Uſe*, that is *miſpent*, or *embezel'd*, and by whom?

7. Have any *Pews* or *Seats* been erected in your *Church* without leave from the *Ordinary*? Is there any *ſtrife* or *contentions* about *Seats* in your *Church*? Have any occaſion'd *Riot*, *Clamor*, or *Diſturbance* in the *Church* at any time?

8. Do any in *your Pariſh prophane* the *Lords Day*, or other appointed *Holy-days*, by uſing their continual *weekly labour*, or otherwiſe, contrary to the *Eccleſiaſtical Laws* of this Land?

IV. *Concerning Pariſh Clerks and Sextons.*

1. Have you a *Pariſh Clerk* aged Twenty Years at the leaſt? Is he of an *honeſt life* and *converſation*? able to *perform his duty* in *Reading*, *Writing*, and *Singing*? Was he *choſen* by your *Miniſter*? Doth he *duly attend* him in all *Divine Services* in the *Church*? Doth he ſerve *more Churches* then one, and *which are they*? Are his *Wages* duly paid him? Or who *withholds* the ſame from him? [*Can.* 86.]

2. Doth your *Sexton* perform his *Duty* diligently, in keeping the *Church clean* and *decent*, and in *tolling* and *ringing* the Bells before Divine Service?

V. *Concerning Schoolmaſters, Schools, and Hoſpitals.*

1. What *Schoolmaſter publick* or *private* is there in your Pariſh? Is he *Licenc'd* by the *Biſhop*? Doth he cauſe his *Schollars* to repair orderly to the *Church* on *Sundays* and *Holy-days*, and ſee that they behave themſelves *quietly* and *reverently* there? [*Can* 98,99.]

2. What *Alms-Houſe* or *Free-School* hath been Founded in your Pariſh? And are they ſo *order'd* as the *Founders* appointed?

3. Do any in your Pariſh practiſe *Phyſick*, *Chirurgery*, or *Midwifry* without *Licence* from the *Ordinary*?

VI. *Concerning Church-Wardens and Sidesmen.*

1. Are the *Church-Wardens* and *Sideſmen* of your Pariſh yearly and duly choſen by the *Miniſter* and *Pariſhoners*? [*Can.* 87.]

2. Have the *former* and *laſt Church-Wardens* given up a *juſt account* of the *Money* they have receiv'd and laid out for the uſe of the *Church*? And have they deliver'd up the Money to *ſucceeding Church-Wardens*, together with all *other things* belonging to your *Church*? Do *they* and the *Sideſmen* duly and truly perform the *duty* and diſcharge the Offices of *Church-Wardens* and *Sideſmen* in your ſaid Pariſh, according to the Laws Eccleſiaſtical, and other the Laws and Conſtitutions of force in this Kingdom ſo far as you know or believe?

3. Do they provide againſt every *Communion* in your *Church* a ſufficient quantity of *fine Wheat Bread* and *good Wine*, according to the number of *Communicants*, at the *charges of the Pariſh*? [*Rubr. of Communion*]

Concerning the Exerciſe of the Eccleſiaſtical Juriſdiction, and the Officers of the Eccleſiaſtical Courts.

1 DO any of the *Officers* of the *Eccleſiaſtical Courts* in this *Diocеſs misbehave* themſelves in any kind whatſoever in execution of their Offices? and *more particularly* do the *Apparators* take upon them the *Office* of *Informers*, or *Promoters* of the *Court*? Or go about your Pariſh frighting the People with undue *Proceſſes* and *Citations*? [*Can.* 85.] Or commit any *other crimes* or *diſorders* fit to be preſented or enquired into? If ſo, preſent the Names of them who do ſo?

2. Do you know, believe, or have heard, that there are any in your Pariſh who exerciſe any *Eccleſiaſtical Juriſdiction* by *Foreign Authority*? if ſo, preſent their Names, that they may be *proceeded againſt* according to Law.

3. Is there any in *your Pariſh* that hath been *Excommunicated* and publickly *Denounced*, who do intrude themſelves into the Church and Divine Service, or the Sacraments, according to the Law eſtabliſh'd in this Kingdom? [*Can.* 60.] If there be any ſuch, preſent their Names, and ſuch as do daily converſe and accompany with them after the knowledge of their being ſo publickly denounc'd.

4. Is there any in your Pariſh who do *detain* or *poſſeſs* any of the *Goods or Chattels* of any *deceaſed perſon*, without the lawful Authority of the *Ordinary*, or *other perſons* having ſufficient power in that behalf, and without *Letters of Adminiſtration*, or *Teſtamentary Probate* duly granted or procured? If there be any ſuch preſent their Names.

5. Do you know any *other matter* or *crime* of Ecclesiastical cognizance fit *to be reformed*, which is not here expressed or enquired of in these Articles? You ought likewise to present the same. The Minister also of every Parish may joyn with the Church-Wardens in presenting Offences: And if the Church-Wardens or Sidesmen be so Irreligious as not to make due Presentments, the Minister himself may do well to do the same. [*Can.* 64, 65.]

The form of the Oath to be taken by the Church-Wardens, Questmen, or Sidesmen in every Parish.

YOU do Swear truly and faithfully to execute and perform the Office of a Church-Warden, Sidesman or Questman, within your Parish of A. during your continuance in that Office, and diligently to Enquire, and true Presentment make to these Articles which are given you in charge, according to the Ecclesiastical Laws of this Realm: All which you are to perform to the best of your Information, Skill and Knowledg.

So help you God.

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IT may be convenient that [illegible] Parson, Vicar, or Curate of every Parish, and the Church-Wardens and Sidesmen [illegible] other, and read over these Articles, and deliberate and confer about [illegible] ering of them, that after they have duly considered them, the [illegible] may be written and given in with the name of all Offen[illegible] particularly, advisedly, and truly, according to their Consci[illegible] written to bring to the Visitation of the Diocess to which th[illegible] dens and Sidesmen to deliver them under their Hand[illegible] consider, That as the true discharging of their Office [illegible] blick Disorders, Sins and Offences in their Parishes m[illegible] refuse or neglect to do their duties therein, they [illegible] be call'd in question for the same by Ecclesiastical [illegible] account thereof at the last day before a much hig[illegible] here upon Earth.

Charges & arti les att visitation